



News Release

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Contact: Media inquiries: Kate Lynch, Communications Office
Public inquiries: Health Systems Customer Service

360-236-4072
360-236-4700

State disciplines health care providers

OLYMPIA — The Washington State Department of Health has taken disciplinary actions or withdrawn charges against health care providers in our state.

The department's Health Systems Quality Assurance Office works with boards, commissions, and advisory committees to set licensing standards for more than 70 health care professions (e.g., medical doctors, nurses, counselors).

Information about health care providers is on the agency website. Click on "Provider Credential Search" on the left hand side of the [Department of Health home page](http://www.doh.wa.gov) (www.doh.wa.gov). The site includes information about a health care provider's license status, the expiration and renewal date of their credential, disciplinary actions and copies of legal documents issued after July 1998. This information is also available by calling 360-236-4700. Consumers who think a health care provider acted unprofessionally are also encouraged to call and report their complaint.

Benton County

In August 2011 the Nursing Assistant Program charged registered nursing assistant **Zachary R. Murphy** (NA60154441) with unprofessional conduct. He allegedly documented providing medications, and taking blood pressure readings of a patient when he didn't actually perform those tasks.

Clallam County

In August 2011 the Health Care Assistant Program charged **Heidi Loraine Allencastre** (HC60156094) with unprofessional conduct. She allegedly falsely identified herself as a nurse, and fraudulently authorized prescriptions for a patient. She was arrested for criminal impersonation.

Cowlitz County

In August 2011 the Counselor Program granted the application of agency affiliated counselor **Eric L. Miller** (CG60217603) and placed his registration on probation for two years. He failed to disclose on his application that terms and conditions were set against his certification to practice as a chemical dependency professional trainee. He must comply with terms and conditions set against his registration.

Grant County

In August 2011 the Board of Osteopathic Medicine and Surgery charged osteopath **Allen Quinn** (OP00001193) with unprofessional conduct. The care he provided allegedly fell below the standard of care when treating multiple patients for chronic pain and maintaining patient records, and he allegedly provided treatment to himself and family members.

King County

In August 2011 the Chemical Dependency Professional Program granted the application of chemical dependency professional trainee **Richard Erle Brewer** (CO60230831) and placed his certification on probation for two years. He was convicted of simple battery of a police officer. He must comply with terms and conditions set against his certification.

In August 2011 the Medical Commission charged physician **Jeong H. Kim** (MD00036606) with unprofessional conduct. He allegedly touched patients inappropriately during exams, loudly confronted a patient, failed to explain procedures to patients, and made inappropriate comments to a patient.

In August 2011 the Licensed Mental Health Counselor Program reinstated the license of mental health counselor **Carol Van Buren** (LH00010800) and placed it on probation for 18 months. She must comply with terms and conditions set against her license.

Kitsap County

In August 2011 the Secretary of Health charged registered nurse **Nicholas W. Callicoat** (RN00167823) with unprofessional conduct. He allegedly entered into a sexual relationship with a patient.

Pend Oreille

In August 2011 the Chemical Dependency Professional Program granted the application of chemical dependency professional trainee **Troy Gene Edwards** (CO60219699) and placed his certification on probation for two years. He was convicted of criminal trespass, theft on several occasions, taking a motor vehicle without permission, and driving under the influence. He must comply with terms and conditions set against his certification.

Pierce County

In August 2011 the Veterinary Board of Governors charged veterinary technician **Tamme J. Hirtzel** (AT00000764) with unprofessional conduct. She allegedly diverted for her own use about 1700 Tussigon pills, a controlled substance. She also was found guilty of driving while under the influence, and reckless driving.

In August 2011 the Nursing Assistant Program charged registered nursing assistant **James Njoroje Kamau** (NA60121463) with unprofessional conduct. He allegedly applied for a nursing assistant registered credential using a social security number that didn't belong to him.

In August 2011 the Nursing Assistant Program charged registered nursing assistant **Carol L. King** (NA00192557) with unprofessional conduct. She allegedly failed to comply with terms and conditions set against her registration.

In August 2011 the Nursing Assistant Program charged registered nursing assistant **Dennis J. King** (NA00192085) with unprofessional conduct. He allegedly failed to comply with terms and conditions set against his registration.

In August 2011 the Board of Osteopathic Medicine and Surgery granted the application of osteopathic physician assistant **Kristie Michelle Mattern** (OA60206687) and placed conditions against her license. Terms and conditions were set against her licenses to practice as a physician assistant and surgical technologist. She must comply with terms and conditions set against her license.

In August 2011 the Chiropractic Commission entered into an agreed order with chiropractor **Michael L. Milasich** (CH00000943). He failed to adequately document treatment he provided to support the level of chiropractic services he billed for, and failed to meet the standard of care for diagnostic x-rays. He must comply with terms and conditions set against his license.

In August 2011 the Nursing Assistant Program charged registered nursing assistant **Adelaida P. Sochor** (NA00119020) with unprofessional conduct. She allegedly took items from patients without permission including rings, gold colored coins, and a gold watch.

In September 2011 the Chiropractic Quality Assurance Commission withdrew charges against chiropractor **Vyacheslav A. Borisenko** (CH00033992).

Spokane County

In August 2011 the Nursing Commission charged registered nurse **Julie A. Bliss** (RN00152477) with unprofessional conduct. She allegedly diverted medication from a patient for her own use, and tested positive for drugs in a urinalysis.

In August 2011 the Board of Pharmacy charged pharmacy technician **Christopher R. Cochran** (VA00049962) with unprofessional conduct. He allegedly diverted medications for his girlfriend and family members, and stole food items totaling about \$126 from his place of employment.

In August 2011 the Chiropractic Commission reprimanded chiropractor **Stephen F. Renner** (CH00001206). He failed to cooperate with an investigation of a complaint against him. He must comply with terms and conditions set against his license.

Thurston County

In August 2011 the Nursing Assistant Program charged registered nursing assistant **Veronica M. Melick** (NA00185436) with unprofessional conduct. She allegedly purchased and financed a vehicle from a patient.

Yakima County

In August 2011 the Nursing Assistant Program charged certified nursing assistant **Joshua D. Ruland** (NC10062642) with unprofessional conduct. He was convicted of trespass, obstruction, theft, domestic violence, and malicious mischief.

Out of State

Arizona: In August 2011 the Nursing Commission charged registered nurse **Lisa K. Scarbeary** (RN60083034) with unprofessional conduct. Her license to practice as a registered nurse in Arizona was suspended for nine months and will be put on probation for three years after reinstatement.

New Jersey: In August 2011 the Medical Commission charged physician **Karl S. Buekers** (MD00048008) with unprofessional conduct. His license to practice as a physician in California is on probation.

Oregon: In August 2011 the Nursing Commission charged licensed practical nurse **Tia M. Cusick** (LP00053490) with unprofessional conduct. She allegedly failed to comply with terms and conditions set against her license.

Oregon: In August 2011 the Surgical Technologist Program charged **Stephanie Marie Harris** (ST60098872) with unprofessional conduct. She allegedly called-in and picked up unauthorized prescriptions for a total of 30 tablets of vicodin which she allegedly used for her own non-therapeutic use.

Oregon: In August 2011 the Secretary of Health charged physician assistant **Roger E. Heintz** (PA10003976) with unprofessional conduct. He was convicted of child molestation.

Note to Editors: Health care providers charged with unprofessional conduct have 20 days to respond to the Department of Health in writing. The case then enters the settlement process. If no disciplinary agreement can be reached, the case will go to a hearing.

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The [Department of Health website](http://www.doh.wa.gov) (www.doh.wa.gov) is your source for *a healthy dose of information*. Also, [find us on Facebook](#) and [follow us on Twitter](#).